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PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 18484-001200US

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

On

9/17/99

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By:

John Lane



#71A
10-21-99
Deane

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Bridenbaugh et al.

Application No.: 09/121,798

Filed: July 23, 1998

For: METHODS FOR PURIFYING
NUCLEIC ACIDS

Examiner: Kunz, G.

Art Unit: 1623

AMENDMENT

(3-m)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 17, 1999, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

In claim 1, line 13, please delete "precipitate solution" and insert therefore -- precipitation mixture--.

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. In the Office Action, claims 1-17 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) for allegedly being obvious over Wan *et al.* (US Patent No. 5,837,529) in view of Ogawa *et al.* (EP431905A1). In addition, claims 1-9 were